

Message Text

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51

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 AID-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-04

/057 W

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O R 231421Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1891

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG NKP

CDR JCRC NKP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 9221

D/PW FOR SIEVERTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS CASC LA

SUBJECT: AMCIT CHARLES M. DEAN

REF: VIENTIANE 9212

1. AMBASSADOR PASSED SUBSTANCE REFTTEL TO AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR AS LATTER WAS LEAVING LUANG PRABANG. HE SAID HE WOULD SEE PHOUMI IN THE MORNING AND TAKE SAME LINE AS WE HAVE. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS FROM CANBERRA TO TELL PHOUMI THAT UNLESS SHARMAN IS RELEASED SOTH PHETRASY'S FORTHCOMING TRIP TO AUSTRALIA ON AID-SEEKING MISSION WOULD BE "ILL-ADVISED."

2. AMBASSADOR CAUGHT PHOUMI, PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG,
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SOVIET AMBASSADOR AND NGON SANANIKONE AT JNPC RECEPTION.

AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE BELIEVED LPF INFO WAS IN ERROR. SEVERAL REFUGEES HAD COME TO VIENTIANE SIDE ZONE AND REPORTED SEEING TWO OCCIDENTALS IN A CAMP NEAR KHAM KEUT. BOATMAN HAD REPORTEDLY ESCAPED AND INFORMED AUTHORITIES OF SEIZURE. AMBASSADOR ASKED THAT LPF RECHECK ITS INFO, AND PHOUMI AGREED TO DO SO. HE SEEMED A BIT SHAKEN BY MENTION OF KHAM KEUT.

3. WITH PRINCE SOUPHANOUVONG, AMBASSADOR REPEATED WHAT HE HAD TOLD PHOUMI AND SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE LPF'S RECHECKING INFO. SOVIET AMBASSADOR AND VIENTIANE SIDE LEADER NGON SANANIKONE WERE BRIEFED ON SITUATION.

4. WE HAVE NOT YET SUCCEEDED IN FINDING BOATMAN BUT ARE WORKING WITH LAO ON THIS. WILL ALSO REVIEW PREVIOUS INTEL REPORTS WITH A VIEW TO FINDING MEANS OF PROVING TO LPF THAT WE KNOW DEAN AND SHARMAN ARE IN THEIR HANDS.

5. PLEASE PASS FOREGOING TO HOWARD DEAN AND TELL HIM THAT NEITHER U.S. NOR AUSTRALIAN EMBASSIES WILL ACCEPT LPF POSITION. WE WILL SHORTLY PASS TO HIM THE INFO HE CAN USE WITH THE PRESS IN NEW YORK IF HE INTENDS TO HOLD FURTHER PRESS CONFERENCE THERE. AT THIS STAGE WE THINK HE SHOULD GET TO NEW YORK PRESS AFTER CHRISTMAS, AND WE WILL GET HIM AMMUNITION HE CAN USE.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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